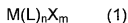


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

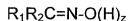
Transition metal complexes used as bleach catalysts of the formula (1)



where

M is a metal atom from the group Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Mo, W,

L is a ligand of the formula



R₁ is C₁-C₂₂-alkyl, C₂-C₂₂-alkenyl or C₅-C₂₄-aryl,

R₂ is H, C₁-C₂₂-alkyl, C₂-C₂₂-alkenyl, C₅-C₂₄-aryl or $R_1C=N-O(H)_z$

where z = 0 or 1,

X is a neutral or anion ligand from the group consisting of pyridines, imidazolines, methylimidazoles, picolines, lutidines, chloride, bromide, nitrate, perchlorate, citrate, hexafluorophosphate or anions of organic acids having C₁-C₂₂ carbon atoms, n is a number from 2 to 4 and m is a number from 0 to 4.